

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the application. New claims 5 and 6 have been added.

Specification and Claims

Minor changes have been made to the specification to place it in better form for U.S. practice.

Further, minor changes have been made to the pending claims, without affecting the scope thereof, to place them in better form for U.S. practice.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yokoi et al. (U.S. Patent 6,257,692). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In the Office Action, the Examiner states that Yokoi discloses a single driving motor 24, a document conveying mechanism to which a rotation force can be transmitted to convey a document, and a recording sheet conveying mechanism that conveys a recording sheet. Although not clear from the Office Action, it appears that the Examiner has determined that the gears 29-31 (see Fig. 2), which rotates a roller shaft 32, correspond to one of the "document conveying mechanism" and the "recording sheet conveying mechanism," and that the gears 27 and 28, which rotate rollers 8, 9, corresponds to the other of the "document conveying mechanism" and the "recording sheet conveying mechanism." As clearly shown in Fig. 2, the motor 24 always transmits rotation force to both the roller shaft 32 through the gears 29-31, and also to the ejector rollers 8 and 9 through the gears 27 and 28.

Applicants respectfully submit, however, that, as shown in Fig. 1, the roller shaft 32 and the rollers 8 and 9 are intended to convey sheets stacked on a sheet stacker 21. In other words, the mechanism disclosed by Yokoi is intended to convey only sheets that correspond to the "recording sheets" of the present invention.

Further, even assuming that the Examiner's interpretation of the Yokoi reference is reasonable, which Applicants do not admit, the motor 24 does not have "transmitting means for transmitting the rotation force generated by the driving motor to the document conveying mechanism when the recording head is located in a specified position, and transmitting the rotation force only to the recording sheet conveying mechanism when the recording head is located in a position other than the specified position," as recited in claim 1.

Claims 2-4, dependent on claim 1, are allowable at least for their dependency on claim 1.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doi (JP 2002-037482). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Doi discloses a facsimile equipment having a motor 3, a document conveying mechanism that includes gears 13 and 33 that receive rotation force from the motor 3 when is transmit mode (see paragraph [0036]), and a recording sheet conveying mechanism that includes gears 9 and 26 that receive rotation force from the motor 3 when it is in receive mode (see paragraph [0038]). The equipment of Doi also has a cam 22 that prevents gears 9 and 26 from engaging during the transmit mode and prevents gears 13 and 33 from engaging during the receive mode.

Doi, however, does not have any mechanism that transmits "the rotation force generated by the driving motor to the document conveying mechanism when the recording head is located in a specified position, and transmitting the rotation force only to the recording sheet conveying mechanism when the recording head is located in a position other than the specified position," as recited in claim 1.

Claims 2 and 3, dependent on claim 1, are allowable at least for their dependency on claim 1.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

New Claims

Claims 5 and 6, variously dependent on claim 1, are allowable at least for their dependency on claim 1.

Support for these claims is disclosed at least in Figs. 3A and 3B of the present application.

A favorable determination by the Examiner and allowance of these claims is earnestly solicited.

Conclusion

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and objections, and allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Maki Hatsumi Reg. No. 40,417 at

Application No. 10/581,864
Amendment dated May 27, 2008
Reply to Office Action of February 25, 2008

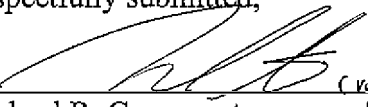
Docket No.: 1247-0549PUS1

the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: May 27, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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